

## WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**COMMITTEE: PUBLIC SAFETY**

**DATE: AUGUST 22, 2008**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS VANNESS  
BENTLEY  
O'CONNOR  
BELDEN  
GIRARD

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

SUPERVISORS HASKELL  
STEC

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

MARVIN LEMERY, FIRE COORDINATOR/DIRECTOR OF THE  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
BRIAN LAFLURE, 1<sup>ST</sup> DEPUTY FIRE COORDINATOR  
BUD YORK, SHERIFF  
SHANE ROSS, CHIEF DEPUTY  
HAL PAYNE, COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FISCAL  
SERVICES  
NICOLE LIVINGSTON, DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD  
SUPERVISOR STRAINER  
TODD LUNT, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR  
SARAH MCLENITHAN, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

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Mr. VanNess called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 9:58 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the July 24, 2008 meeting of the Public Safety Committee, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Marvin Lemery, Fire Coordinator/Director of the Office of Emergency Services, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; *a copy of which is on file with the minutes.*

Beginning with the first item on the agenda, Mr. Lemery stated his belief that there would be an increase this winter of people in need of assistance with their heating expenses. Hal Payne, Commissioner of Administrative & Fiscal Services, stated that on the advice of Mr. Lemery, a task force had been created consisting of members of the Warren and Washington County Board of Supervisors and the United Way. He added that a tentative meeting date of September 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall located in the Glens Falls Civic Center had been scheduled with members of the State Assembly and Senate in attendance, as well as several organizations that offer assistance to individuals in need. Mr. Belden questioned whether the Supervisors would be notified of the meeting dates and times and Mr. Payne replied that there had been a meeting last night and when the exact date, time and location of the meeting was determined, the Supervisors would be notified.

Mr. Lemery informed the Committee that the second item on the agenda was in reference to Brian LaFlure, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Fire Coordinator and Amy Manney, Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Services, who would be traveling to Syracuse, New York to attend the Disaster Preparedness Conference (DPC) on September 15, 16 and 17, 2008. He added that this had been approved at a prior Committee meeting and that the necessary funds had been appropriated in the budget.

Mr. Lemery stated was an update on the Emergency Services Training Center (ESTC). He said that the Inter-Municipal agreement had been signed by Warren and Washington Counties

and they were presently working on finalizing the contract with the Laberge Group to hire a consultant to perform environmental studies on the property. Mr. VanNess added that he had spoken with Patricia Nenninger, Second Assistant County Attorney, who advised that she had been informed by Laberge that they would be ready to begin the studies as soon as the contract was finalized.

Item four on the agenda, Mr. Lemery stated, pertained to the fall and winter training schedule that had been requested by the members of the fire services in the County. He added that the locations of the training had been agreed upon at the prior Chiefs and Officers meeting and included the names of the four instructors that would be teaching the courses. He noted that one item of concern for the instructors of the courses had been that they had requested reimbursement for mileage for the use of their personal vehicles. He stated that the problem had been addressed and resolved by the State of New York and the State would be reimbursing the instructors for the mileage.

Mr. Girard questioned how many instructors were available to conduct the training and Mr. Lemery replied that in the prior years there had been five instructors available to Warren County; however, he added, Scott Richards, Lieutenant in the Glens Falls Fire Department, had transferred to Washington County and would conduct training there. Mr. Lemery added that three of the Warren County instructors were firemen for the City of Glens Falls and the other was a volunteer fireman in the Town of Queensbury.

Mr. Lemery said that agenda item five was in reference to the use of the Gaslight Village buildings to conduct training. He added in speaking with Louis Tessier, Supervisor for the Town of Lake George, he had been informed that the Lake George Fire Department had obtained permission to conduct training on a few of the Gaslight Village buildings as long as they abstained from the use of fire. Mr. Lemery had asked Mr. Tessier about the possibility of conducting the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) course on the site and he said he did not foresee a problem with this. Mr. Lemery added that it would be necessary to purchase items for the construction of the doorways and hallways in one of the buildings in the amount to \$600, which had been included in the budget and these items would remain in the building until the training had concluded. Mr. VanNess stated that he had not been informed of the agreement pertaining to the use of Gaslight Village buildings as training suites and questioned Mr. Belden if he had any prior knowledge of this. Mr. Belden responded in the negative and suggested that Mr. Lemery draft a letter to the Warren County Board of Supervisors requesting authorization for the use of this site for training. Mr. Lemery advised that Mr. Tessier had informed him that he had consulted with the County Attorney on the agreement.

It was the consensus of the Committee that Mr. Lemery consult with Paul Dusek, County Attorney, on the drafting of a letter to the Warren County Board of Supervisors requesting authorization to conduct training on the Gaslight Village property.

Mr. Lemery stated that before addressing agenda item six, he had a few items he would like to review with the Committee; the first being the Initiative Grant that had been received from Senator Little for the purchase of the trailer and tow vehicle for the EMS equipment. He added that the trailer had been delivered and the paint had been purchased and a County maintenance employee would be painting the interior and the deck of the trailer. He noted that

when the tow vehicle was received both the trailer and the vehicle would be detailed and everything would be in place to respond to an emergency.

Mr. Lemery advised that he had reviewed the pending item list and that all pending items had been cleared up on the list with the exception of the request for proposals that had been prepared and sent out for consulting services in regards to preparation of a Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County. He stated that there was hesitation to award the contract as he had not yet received a written statement from the State of New York allowing an extension of time to prepare and process the plan. He added that the Hazard Mitigation Plan was on hold until the written statement was received. Mr. VanNess questioned if anything could be done to move the process along and Mr. Lemery responded in the negative. He added that perhaps Senator Little could be contacted to speak to a representative of the State Emergency Management Office to move the process along.

Mr. Lemery requested an executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person.

Motion was made by Mr. Girard, seconded by Mr. Belden and carried unanimously that executive session be declared, pursuant to Section 105 (f) of the Public Officers Law.

Executive session was declared from 10:10 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.

Pursuant to executive session, motion was made by Mr. Belden, seconded by Mr. Girard and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Marvin Lemery as Fire Coordinator/Director of the Office of Emergency Services, effective September 20, 2008 and to appoint Brian LaFlure to the Fire Coordinator/Director of the Office of Emergency Services position effective on the same date and refer same to the Personnel Committee.

Mr. Belden thanked Mr. Lemery for his outstanding service to the County and noted that he would be sorely missed.

There being no further business to come before the Public Safety Committee, on motion made by Mr. Girard and seconded by Mr. Belden, Mr. VanNess adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah McLenithan  
Legislative Office Specialist